**Letter from Flora S. Hinds to her Brother as he left for war (WWII)**

Arab Alabama

September 11, 1942

To Herbert, my brother,

Through all the years of a boy’s life he dreams of a time when he might do some good, great thing. Because of it he will be loved and praised and honored by all who deep in their hearts cherish the four freedoms our fathers strove to attain through other days of “blood and sacrifice, sweat and tears”.

That time has come for you. Tomorrow you go to camp and ah! How proud of you we are. Yours is a privilege as well as a duty. Make well of it. Only the best you can do is enough for the country that has mothered you from babyhood to manhood, straight and strong, God-loving and true to the ideals of this our America.

There will be bright, beautiful days ahead; dark ones too. But on those days you will have these memories always with you: the orchard in bloom; the big trout you caught; the harvest moon about wide hay fields; white cranes on the lake, your arrowheads, framed; your bird hooks in rows, the autumn painted ridges; the winter’s first snow; blazing logs on the hearth; the hound dog, Gal, possum hunting with you; fresh plowed fields and the trees first green; the smell on your hands of fresh, warm milk; the old turkey hen’s nest under the gnarled rose bush; Twilight, your trumpet and you and “Star Dust” or “Concerto in B Minor”; a mother’s goodnight kiss to her only son.

All these and more are the dear, close things you have known and will come back to and in the years to come, in your heart you will feel: - These things I have loved and fought for, they are mine and my sons’ who will come after me - my God, my home, my country.

Your most devoted sister

Flora Ann S. Hinds

[**http://www.gilderlehrman.org/collection/battlelines/chapter1\_5a.html**](http://www.gilderlehrman.org/collection/battlelines/chapter1_5a.html)

**Journal of a United States Naval Reserve Radioman (WWII)**

November 22 - December 16, 1944 - Got mail on board almost every day [while harbored at New Guinea] although I didn’t get mail everyday. Painted part of the radio shack with a mixture of red, black, and blue which makes an indescribable color although it does look ok. Went to water hole and took on water, got to see a movie while there. Tied up to a tanker and took on fuel. I got to see about 5 movies while in the bay this time. Bills got transferred to the hospital because of ulcers. We went back to the water hole before we left.

February 13, 1945 - Morning - Moored about 25 yards off the beach. We couldn’t beach because of coral reefs. I met a boy who went to radio school with me on the ship tied up to us. This is a pretty beach. There is a native village just down the beach with a river coming out behind it. In front of us is a hill covered in coconut palms. A whole swarm of natives were out all day in their dugout canoes talking and trying to sell souvenirs. Noon - Started raising small boat (LCVP) when cable snapped, leaving small boat hanging by its bow from the Davits. The stern was in the water up to the motor. The coxswain and seamen in the boat hung on to their lifelines, but the motormac (Brummer) was thrown into the water. They had to bring him aboard in a stretcher, but he is ok now. They fastened a line to the stern of the boat to keep it from going on down and lowered the bow slowly. The boat is pretty banged up, but they got it down ok.

March 15, 1945 - Went ashore on Liberty at Puerto Princesa [Philippines] . Boy this place sure took a beating. There is not a whole building left in the town. I saw the Prisoner Of War building where the Japs burned 123 American prisoners of war. Some of the boys saw the bones and ashes, but I didn’t go inside the building. There are about half a dozen Jap planes strewn around the town and a lot of them out on the airstrip just outside of the town. I went in some of the wrecked buildings that had been tested for mines and got some souvenirs. The town must have taken a terrific shelling and bombing before it was invaded. Two truck drivers were killed last night on the airstrip by snipers.

<http://wwiijournallst740.blogspot.com/>



Photo of newspaper headlines from Oakland, California in 1942

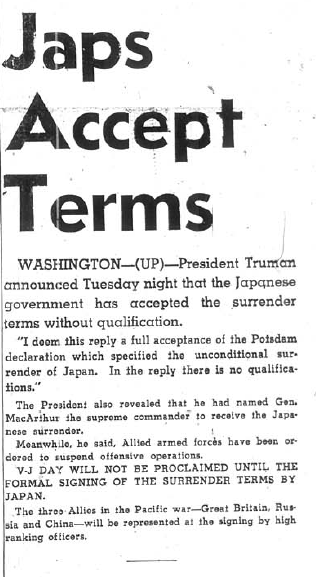
<http://loc.gov/pictures/resource/cph.3a19319/>



Japanese-American evacuation from West Coast areas under U.S. Army war emergency order. Japanese-American child who will go with his parents to Owens Valley

<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/resource/fsa.8a31170/>

**Notification of Japanese Surrender, August 14, 1945**

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[**http://www.mnhs.org/people/mngg/vjday/vjday.htm**](http://www.mnhs.org/people/mngg/vjday/vjday.htm)